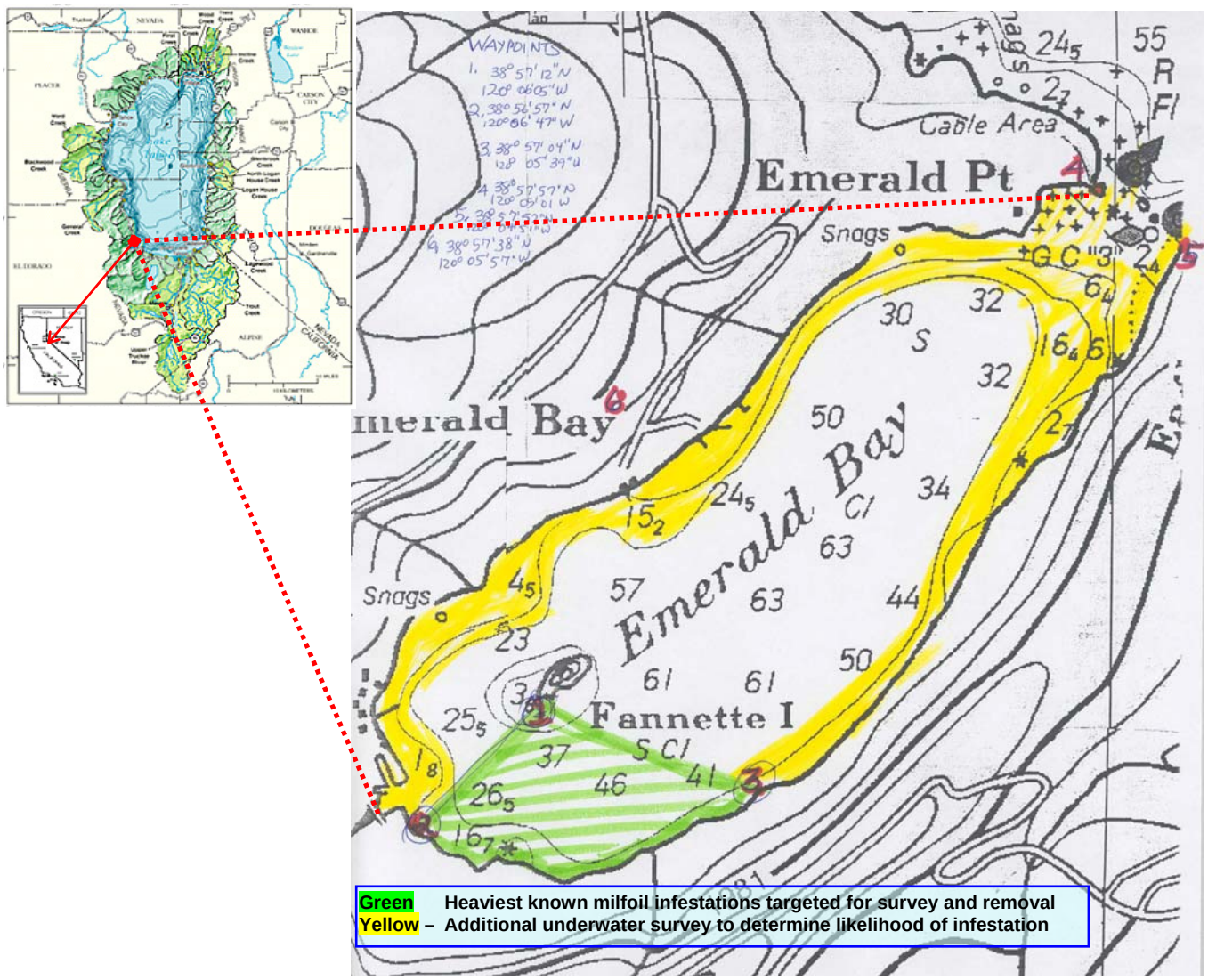
W 30139.2

EXHIBIT A
DEMONSTRATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The most active growing milfoil bed in Emerald Bay covers an approximate 30-acre area in the southern portion of the Bay, southwest of Fannette Island and southeast of the mouth of Eagle Creek along 2400 feet of shoreline (see Figure 1.).

Figure 1. Emerald Bay, Lake Tahoe

From USGS Emerald Bay CA-NV Quadarangle, 7.5 Minute Series (TOPOGRAPHIC), 1992



This map solely represents the general area of infestation targeted for milfoil removal. It is not intended to be, or to be construed as, a waiver or a limitation of any State interest in the subject area or any other property.

1. Site Preparation: Survey, Water Quality Measurement, Disposal Site Selection

a. All contractors on this demonstration project shall ensure that their equipment is thoroughly clean before entering the Lake, and that all equipment under their responsibility is cleaned after the end of the fieldwork before moving it out of the Park or Lake area.

b. Before removing any milfoil, A.C.E. Diving (A.C.E.) will conduct an underwater survey of Emerald Bay to:

- Determine the areal extent, density and volume of milfoil targeted for removal, noting locations of milfoil plants that are flowering or seeding;
- Identify the other aquatic plants present and their location;
- Map the contours and hydrosoil susceptible to milfoil invasion; and
- Provide the CSLC, for its review and approval, a brief work plan, with maps, showing: 1) the areal extent of infestation (with approximate square footage), 2) the location and extent of the area of milfoil to be removed, with approximate densities and the biomass (approximate volume and wet weights), and 3) the areas most susceptible to infestation.

CSLC staff will review the plan and authorize A.C.E. to begin removal as indicated in the approved work plan. At the end of each day, A.C.E. and CSLC will evaluate the operation and determine if any modifications are required to the work plan prior to the start of the next day's removal activities.

c. The CSLC, or a contractor, will establish turbidity-monitoring locations in at least four stations in the Bay, and record nephelometer readings using protocols used in Tahoe Keys in 2004.

d. Working with California State Parks (Parks) and South Tahoe Refuse, Inc., A.C.E. will select and mark the site(s) for deposition and subsequent transport of the collected plant material. The CSLC will inform TRPA and Lahontan RWQCB staff of the landing site prior to removal work. Anticipating a volume of 30 cubic yards of collected wet plant material within four days, South Tahoe Refuse, Inc. will provide 6-yard containers as necessary). South Tahoe Refuse, Inc. will remove collected material daily or as necessary from the Basin to a permitted disposal facility.

e. A.C.E., Parks and South Tahoe Refuse, Inc., will select and mark the transfer site well enough for all to use easily, indicating it on the survey map.

2. Hand Removal:

a. A.C.E. crews will remove as much milfoil biomass as possible within the designated time (four days total), by the vacuum system it designed for this application. A.C.E. will supply labor and equipment, including, but not limited to, the workboat, vacuum removal and transfer equipment.

b. A.C.E. will remove milfoil in a manner that will minimize escape of fragments during initial collection, and dedicate time to gather the majority of the "stragglers" – the hand-pulled plant fragments that escaped the initial vacuum-assisted collection -- as reasonably practicable before the close of each day's operation. A.C.E. will inform CSLC staff daily on the approximate wet weight and/ or volume of milfoil removed, matched with the locations of the sites cleaned.

c. A.C.E. will assist in tracking effort, including recording the estimated volume of haul-out. South Tahoe Refuse will weigh each load taken from the transfer site, and relay weights to A.C.E. Diving and the CSLC within one day after disposal.

d. CSLC will observe the removal effort and assist in decisions or with questions on process, including documenting disposal and recording data.

e. The CSLC/designee will record turbidity measurements pre-, during, and post removal activity, and report findings daily to the Lahontan RWQCB. If measurements exceed 3.0 NTU, the CSLC will notify the Lahontan RWQCB within one hour, and begin pulling plants more slowly to reduce sediment disturbance.

3. Follow-Up:

a. Within 10 days after completion of the demonstration project, A.C.E. will submit an evaluation of the work performed. The evaluation report shall include: 1) level of control achieved and projected level of re-infestation or grow back, 2) approximate area cleared and volume (in cubic yards) of material removed and fragments collected, 3) the disposal site used, and 4) immediate follow-up actions to the demonstration project. The evaluation report will also designate, in priority order based on the demonstration project, a schedule for areas that could subsequently be removed to restore the Bay to its previous condition and any recommended modifications to operating procedures, etc.

b. Within 30 days after completion of the demonstration project, the CSLC will produce a comprehensive report, which will be sent to the TRPA, Lahontan RWQCB, Parks, CDFG, and other interested parties. The CSLC will schedule a meeting in July, 2005, to discuss the report with all involved parties.

ATTACHMENT – DESCRIPTION OF METHOD

DIVER HAND-PULLED REMOVAL ASSISTED BY VACUUM SUCTION REMOVAL involves an underwater diver pulling the plant out by the roots, then "feeding" it into a 3"-6" intake suction hose that transfers the entire plant and associated water up to the water surface to a screen or collection box attached to the side of the workboat (Fig.3). The dredge engine is usually a 5 to 8 horsepower Honda or Briggs & Stratton. Sediment type, visibility, and thoroughness in removal of the entire plant, particularly the roots, affect the speed at which plants are uprooted. The screen/basket separates the pulled plant material from the associated water, which then passes back into the water column. The plant material is retained on the screen and, after a threshold amount builds up, is conveyed to an approved on-shore dry disposal area.

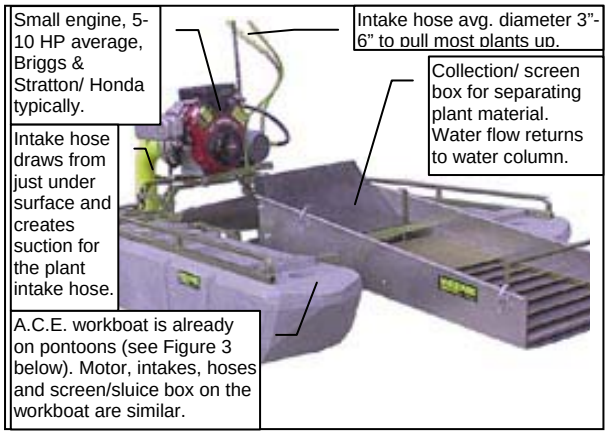


Figure 2. Vacuum Suction Equipment from a Portable Assembly: Workboat: Engine, Intakes and Collection/ Screen Box are similar.

Effectiveness and Duration Diver hand-pulling assisted by vacuum suction removal can be highly effective under appropriate conditions. Removal efficiency depends on sediment condition, density of aquatic plants, and underwater visibility (Cooke et al. 1993). This technique works well to control early low-level infestations of milfoil or Brazilian elodea. It can also be used as a maintenance tool following herbicide treatments.

This technique immediately clears the water column of nuisance plants and is site and species specific. A high degree of control, lasting more than one season, is possible when complete removal has been achieved. It is most useful in hard-to-reach places and in sensitive areas where disruption of sediments must be minimized. Plant parts are collected for later disposal, minimizing the spread of fragments, important in the control of milfoil. The vacuum assistance helps a diver cover a much larger area than "unassisted" hand pulling, and works well in soft sediments. Potential turbidity increases and bottom disruption depend on hydrosoil structure, and are usually confined and short-term.

Figure 3. A.C.E. Diving Workboat and Vacuum Assist Equipment at Water Surface on a Lak